

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-22 were objected to for certain informalities in claims 1, 3, 6-9, 13 and 18. In response, claims 1, 3, 6-9, 13 and 18 have been amended to remove the informalities noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection to the claims is requested.

In the Office Action, claims 3-5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, claims 3, 5 and 7 have been amended to remove the informalities noted by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that amended claims 3-5 and 7 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection to claims 3-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-22 are allowed, presumably pending overcoming the objections and rejection thereto, which have been addressed as noted above.

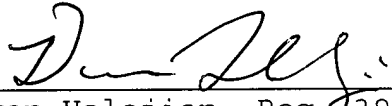
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-22 are in allowable form, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,


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October 14, 2004

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